



Record sales for 'The Pentagon Papers'

NEW YORK — The Bantam Books edition of "The Pentagon Papers" had a first-run printing of 500,000 copies on Wednesday, followed by an additional run of 50,000. The \$2.25 paperback contains the selections from the secret Pentagon report prepared in 1967-68 for then Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara published by the New York Times, together with the commentary by New York Times' writers. It also has 64 pages of pictures.

One of the biggest buyers of the book was the Government itself. The Navy ordered 2,000 copies directly from the printing plant in Chicago; 1,000 copies were put on sale in shops at the Pentagon last Thursday. Defense Secretary Laird's office asked for "about 20" and other defense agencies ordered 30 more. The CIA ordered 25 copies directly from District News.

Foreign interest was also high. Bookstores in West Germany ordered 15,000 in English, the largest order for a Bantam publication, including "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Sex," "Valley of the Dolls," and "Portnoy's Complaint."